

Class of 2012: 20th Graduation Class from Souhegan High

By Cliff Ann Wales

Souhegan High School graduation ceremonies have all the usual pomp and circumstance one would expect at a high school graduation. The Class of 2012 with 223 seniors marched into the stadium to the sounds of the Souhegan High School Concert Band directed by Alexandria Kibbie, playing Sir Edward Elgar's "Pomp and Circumstance," students Jacob Dworkin and Matthew Yetto sang a beautiful rendition of the National Anthem and William Cook, Graham Cox, Bertrand DeForest and Alexander Kempf led their classmates in the Pledge of Allegiance.

What comes next is what sets Souhegan apart. Fang fest, the Mayan calendar, a rubber chicken, baseball and Yogi Berra were all subjects of the speeches that followed.

Making the salutatorian address was Robby McCormick. He reminisced about grade school at Clark and Wilkins, told stories about the cafeteria and his bag of Lay's potato chips and labeled his class as "...the class that teachers would warn of on step up day."

McCormick reminded his classmates that Fang Fest, championship sports games and senior projects brought the class of 2012 together and provided memories that "will last a life time."

McCormick who was on the Souhegan baseball team, which rallied all year and overcame many adversities to reach the playoffs only to lose in heart breaking fashion, equates baseball and softball to graduation. McCormick used a quote from NFL quarterback, Kurt Warner after a Super Bowl loss: "It's OK ...life isn't about winning a football game. It's about the moments and it's about being able to relish and enjoy the things that God gives you."



Robby McCormick, salutatorian



Raleigh McElvery, valedictorian

"As you move forward, remember to take the time to enjoy the moments and the people that are part of your journey," said McCormick.

Valedictorian, Raleigh McElvery brought a serious note to the proceedings when she stated, "I'm here to tell you that the Mayans had it right. The world is about to end. For the Class of 2012, our world as we know it is about to change forever."

The Mayans predicted that time is running out and the end is quickly approaching, "There's also promise of a new beginning – an opportunity to move on to greater things," said McElvery.

McElvery told the class that they would keep on asking the big questions: Where am I going and who am I meant to be? "And let's face it, self

reflection is exactly what being a Souhegan grad is all about," she said.

Principal Jon Ingram addressed the seniors and showed them his youngest son's security blanket – actually it was rather large rubber chicken that went everywhere with his son. He told of the many attempts they made to substitute other objects (cute teddy bears) but his son would have not part of it. Principal Ingram told the seniors to find their passion in life and follow it and "Never let go of your rubber chicken."

The students chose Dick Miller to make the faculty address. Confessing that as a philosopher he is closer to Yogi Berra than Robert Frost. To illustrate, he said the quote he was using from Yogi Berra "When you come to a fork in the road, take it" was a fitting one.

Miller continued, "...right now even if you think you know where you are going, you might not end up there. But no matter where you go when you come to that fork in the road, I want you to know some things that might keep you on track and help guide you on a successful journey." Miller's Principles: Treat all the way you would want to be treated; Smile. Life is too short not to enjoy; Don't be afraid to cry; Say thank you; and Tell those who really matter to you that you love them.

The Souhegan Concert Band under the direction of Carl Benevides performed "Invention No. 1" and "The Emblem March."

The Masters of Ceremony who kept the program moving smoothly were Andria Aiken and Asher Henderson.

The concert choir conducted by Pat McMullen performed "For Good" and "Time of My Life."

The Turning of the Tassel and the mortarboard toss were ably lead by Bertrand DeForest.

Congratulations to the 223 graduates of the Class of 2012!



Nathan Carle advisory



Asher Henderson, MC



Andrea Aiken, MC



Mortar board art – Amy Knowlton, Havana Asvaraksh and Alexis Small



Kenneth Emery and Evelyn Cauchon



Pledge of Allegiance: William Cook, Graham Cox, Bertrand DeForest and Alexander Kempf



Dignitaries: Robert Thompson, Dean of Students, Christine Janson, School Board Chair, Peter Warburton, SAU Superintendent, Jon Ingram, Principal



Concert choir directed by Pat McMullen



Students in advisory waiting their turn

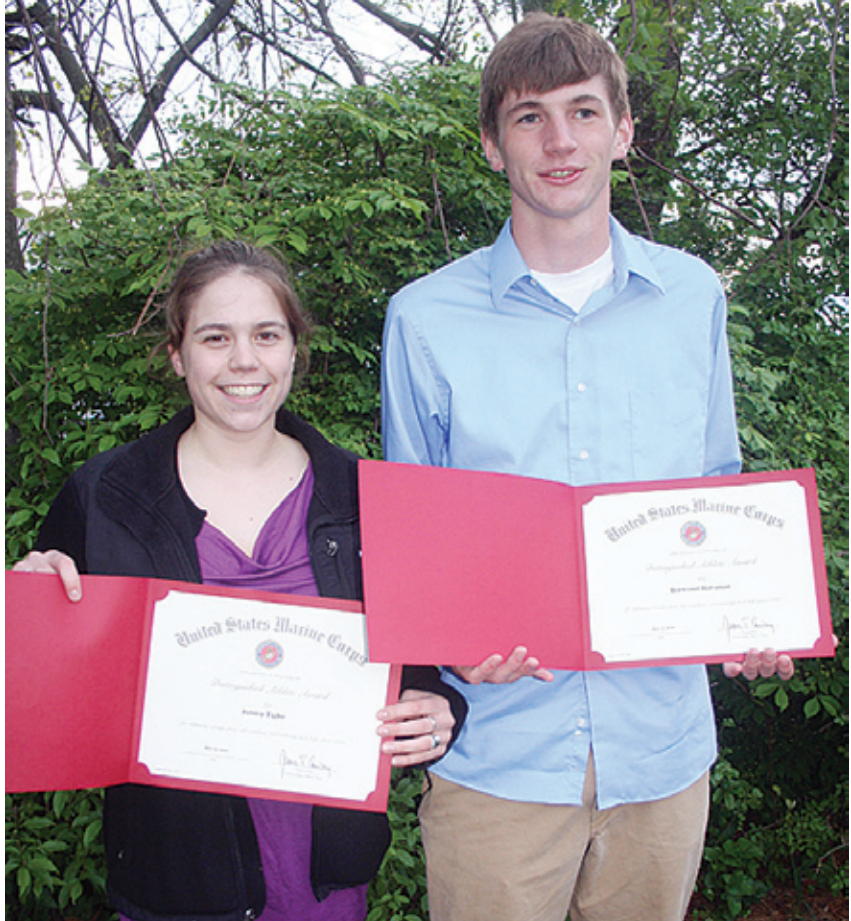
Class of 2012: Souhegan High School Senior Athletic Awards of the Year



Souhegan High School 2012 Senior Milford Rotary Souhegan High School Female and Male Athlete of the Year: Isabella Stuopis and Chris Chininis



Souhegan High School 2012 Senior United States Army National Scholar Athlete Award: Robby McCormick and Megan Whitney



Souhegan High School 2012 Senior United States Marine Corp Outstanding Athlete Award: Ashley Tighe and Bertrand DeForest